

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 26-50 were pending. Claims 33-40 and 44-50 were allowed. Claims 26-32 and 41-43 were rejected. In this response, no claim has been canceled or amended. Applicant appreciates with thanks for the allowance of claims 26-32 and 41-43. No new matter has been added.

Claims 26-32 and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gorny (U.S. Patent No. 5,642,061) and Furber (U.S. Patent No. 5,918,042). It is respectfully submitted that claims 26-32 and 41-43 include limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by Gorny and Furber. Specifically, independent claim 26 recites as follows:

26. A device, comprising:
a clock circuit to receive an input clock signal and an enable signal and to generate a pre-charge pulsed clock signal and an evaluate pulsed clock signal based on the input clock signal and the enable signal, to pre-charge and evaluate a circuit respectively; and
a pre-charge circuit coupled to the clock circuit to receive the pre-charge pulsed clock signal and the enable signal to pre-charge the circuit, while the circuit is not being evaluated via the evaluate pulsed clock signal,
wherein the enable signal, when de-activated, causes the pre-charge circuit to continue pre-charging the circuit after pulsed time of the pre-charge pulsed clock signal.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 26 include an enable signal, which when deactivated, causes a pre-charge circuit to continue pre-charging the circuit event after the pulsed time of the pre-charge pulsed clock signal. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from the cited references.

Although the Examiner acknowledges that Gorny fails to disclose the above limitations, the Examiner maintains that Furber discloses such limitations (1/21/2005 Office Action, pages 2-3). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Specifically, Furber states:

"The dynamic logic circuit 4 begins evaluation when its enable signal E (corresponding to Ain) goes high. The dynamic logic 4 indicates that it has produced a valid output by asserting a done signal D to the pipeline stage control circuit 8. The dynamic logic circuit 4 is precharged when the enable signal E is low and precharge completion is signalled by the dynamic logic circuit 4 by the done signal D going low."

(col. 5, lines 27-35 of Furber, emphasis added)

Thus, there pre-charging is performed when the enable signal goes low and the evaluation is performed when the enable signal goes high. There is no disclosure or suggestion within Furber that the pre-charge operation continues even after pulsed time of the pre-charge pulsed clock signal.

In addition, there is no suggestion within the cited references to combine with each other. Even if they were combined, such a combination still lacks the limitations set forth above. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 26 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, independent claim 41 includes limitations similar to those recited in claim 26. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claim 41 is patentable over the cited references.

Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the rest of the claims are patentable over the cited references.

Furthermore, with respect to claims 27-32 and 42-43, these claims are rejected based on the Examiner's alleged obvious assertions (see 1/21/2005 Office Action, page 3). Applicant respectfully disagrees. In order to render a claim obvious, each and every limitations of the claim must be taught by the cited references. It would be impermissible hindsight to use Applicant's own disclosure to render these claims obvious. It is respectfully

submitted that claims 27-32 and 42-43, especially claims 30 and 43, include limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, individually or in combination. Therefore, in addition to those applied to their respective independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that claims 27-32 and 42-43 are independently patentable over the cited references.

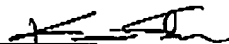
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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